Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/07/23: CIA-RDP90-00552R000303270014-3

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE 47 THE WASHINGTON POST 1 January 1980

Two Plots to Assassinate Khomeini Allegedly Foiled

By Ronald Koven

Washington Post Foreign Service.

PARIS, Dec. 31-Twice during the past month, hired killers from Europe were frustrated in plans to assassinate Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, according to a reliable Western source.

The source speculated that the assassination plots were most probably ordered by Iranian political exiles who are centered in Paris, the focus of the exile communitys' efforts to return to power in Iran.

On both-occasions, the source said, a foreign intelligence service learned of the assassination plans, and arranged to warn the Iranian government through diplomatic channels.

STAT